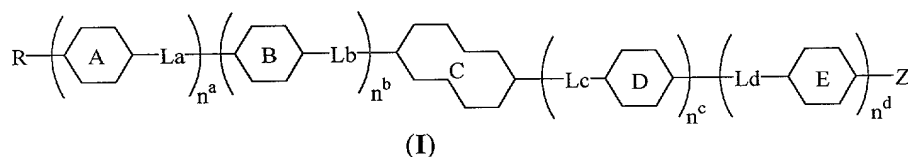


ABSTRACT

A tetrahydronaphthalene derivative represented by the general formula (I) and a liquid crystal composition containing the same.



5

A compound represented by the general formula (I) shows superior liquid crystallinity and co-solubility with conventional liquid crystal compounds and compositions. Furthermore, addition of such a compound enables the threshold voltage to be significantly reduced with almost no deleterious effect on the responsiveness. In addition, a compound of the present invention can also be easily produced industrially, is colorless, and is chemically stable. Consequently, liquid crystal compositions containing such a compound are extremely useful as liquid crystals, and are particularly suitable for liquid crystal displays requiring a wide operating temperature range, low voltage driving and a high response speed.

10